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The Dalai Lama at a prayer ceremony in McLeodganj on Saturday | PTI

I HOPE TO LIVE FOR 30-40 YRS MORE: DALAI

The Dalai Lama on Saturday put to rest rumours surrounding the announcement of his successor, saying he hopes to live for another 30-40 years more to serve people. Speaking at the long life prayer ceremony ahead of his 90th birth anniversary on Sunday at Tsuglagkhang, the main Dalai Lama temple in McLeodganj, Tenzin Gyatso said he has "clear signs and indications" that the blessings of the Avalokiteshvara are with him | P10

ADR moves SC over Bihar poll roll

Calls ECI order impractical, flags possible disenfranchising of lakhs

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@ New Delhi

FIGHT GOES TO TOP COURT

SPL SUMMARY REVISION ALREADY OVER BETWEEN OCT 29, 2024 AND JAN 6, 2025. WHY FRESH ITERATION WITH NEW PARAMETERS?

1. Exclusion of Aadhaar or ration cards as id proof makes the poor vulnerable to exclusion from poll roll, says ADR
2. The petition claims that the ECI shifted the onus of being on the voters' list from the state to the citizens
3. Over 3 crore people could be excluded from voting due to the the requirements as mentioned in the SIR order
4. Petition says ECI fiat lacks recorded reasons supported by evidence or transparent methodology

AMID mounting concerns, the Association For Democratic Reforms (ADR) on Saturday moved Supreme Court, challenging the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar.

It said the ECI's exercise was violative of Art 14, 19, 21, 325, 326, provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. "The SIR order, if not set aside, can arbitrarily disenfranchise lakhs of voters, thereby disrupting free and fair elections," the petition said.

It pointed out that the documentation requirements, lack of due process and short timeline for the electoral roll revision would result in removal of names of genuine voters.

The plea charged that the ECI shifted the onus of being on the voters' list from the state to citizens. It excluded identification documents such as Aadhaar or ration cards, which makes marginalised communities more vulnerable.

"The Declaration as required under the SIR process is violative of Article 326 in so far as it requires a voter to provide documents to prove his/her citizenship and also citizenships of his/her mother or father, failing which his/her name would not be added to the draft electoral roll and can be deleted from the same," the ADR said.

It termed the ECI's order as unreasonable and the timeline impractical to conduct SIR in Bihar where elections are due in November 2025. There are many who may be able to procure the documents but the short timeline mentioned in directive may preclude them from being able to supply the same within the time period, the ADR said.

"Bihar is a state with high poverty and migration rates where many lack access to documents like birth certificates or parental records. As per estimates over 3 crore voters and more particularly from marginalised communities could be excluded from voting due to the stringent requirements as mentioned in the SIR order."

STATE STUDY FINDING

'No link between Covid vax and heart attacks'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A state government-commissioned investigation into the rising cases of sudden cardiac deaths among young adults in Karnataka has found no causal link between Covid-19 vaccination or prior infection and premature cardiovascular events.

The study, led by Dr KS Ravindranath, Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, was submitted to the state government on July 2.

The report followed a two-month pilot study of 251 patients aged 45 and below who were admitted to Jayadeva Hospital with coronary artery disease between April and May this year. Although 19 patients reported past Covid infection and nearly all (249 out of 251) had received at least one vaccine dose, the expert committee concluded there was no evidence to suggest these factors directly contributed to heart attacks or sudden cardiac deaths.

The geographical analysis showed that 47% of all cases were from Bengaluru, with smaller proportions from Tumkur (8%), Mandya, Kolar, and Ramanagara (5% each), and a combined 22% from other Karnataka districts. Patients from other states made up 5% of the study sample.

"The findings are clear — there is no link between Covid vaccination and sudden cardiac deaths. In fact, global studies show vaccines are protective against severe cardiovascular outcomes," the report noted and instead highlighted that a worrying number of young patients lacked conventional risk factors like diabetes or hypertension, pointing to the need to explore newer mechanisms, possibly related to lifestyle or environmental changes. P4

20 years on, Thackeray cousins reunite

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

SHIV Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said he and his cousin, MNS chief Raj Thackeray, have joined forces in the interest of 'Marathi pride' while sharing a political stage with him after nearly 20 years.

Uddhav sounded bullish when he said he and Raj will capture power in the Mumbai civic body elections and Maharashtra together. "We have come together to stay together," he asserted.

At the public rally titled 'Awaj Marathicha' to celebrate the rollback of two government resolutions on introducing Hindi as a third language from Class 1 in state schools, Uddhav said, "We won't let the government impose Hindi on us." MNS leader Amit Thackeray, Raj's son, was seen sharing a hug with Uddhav's son Aaditya on the stage.

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ON NEERAJ'S BIG NIGHT IN BENGALURU, CHOPRA WINS

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Bengaluru

IN sport, there are no satisfaction guarantees. This truism, though, has had several exceptions. From an Indian context, the one modern athlete who has come closest to shattering this maxim has been Neeraj Chopra.

The 27-year-old guarantees wins or podium places. Since June 2021, 24 meets ago, he has only known two sporting pincodes. First or second. Whatever the magnitude of the competition — Olympics, World Championships, top-tier invitations or low-key season openers — the Indian has risen to the occasion.

Shortly after 7.30 pm on a windy evening at Sree Kanteerava Stadium, Chopra added another line to an already glittering CV. As soon as Sahil Silwal hurtled down the runway to mark the beginning of the NC Classic, the javelin ace entered into the history books for the sheer scale and ambition of conceptualising, ideating and organising a world-class athletics event in India. And Chopra's role in this shouldn't be understated — Saturday ushered in the birth of Chopra the administrator. It was all about putting in place the building blocks towards securing a legacy off the field. Moving forward, the NC Classic could see multiple disciplines. At least that's what he hopes.

With CM Siddaramaiah and 1,000s of others in attendance, the event belatedly caught fire when the familiar frame of Chopra stood at the top of the runway for his third throw.

Batting a bit of a crosswind, he cut across seven of the eight lanes and past the timer before launching the spear into the Bengaluru night sky. A few seconds later, '86.18m' had flashed on the screen. After two below par throws, the titular character had finally grazed the occasion. His occasion. It stayed that way for the rest of the night. 'A satisfaction guarantee'. P2

PICLVINOD KUMAR T

EXPRESS INTAKE

Congress failed to convince ally DMK on Mekedatu: HDK | P4

Upa Lokayukta visits lakes to check pollution | P7

Social Welfare Department
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
39th Death Anniversary of
Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram
Architect of the Green Revolution,
National Leader and former Deputy Prime Minister of India.
Garlanding the Statue of Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram by
Shri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister and
Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare.
July 6th, 2025, Sunday at 10.30 AM. West Gate, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
"Truth is One, ways are Many"
- Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram
Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare in a progress review meeting.
As is enshrined in our constitution, "to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture" - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.
Commissioner
Social Welfare Department
@SWDGok